

REMARKS

In the Official Action dated December 8, 2006, Claims 1-2, 6-12, 16-23, 26-28, and 32-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0033296 to Rothmuller *et al.* (“*Rothmuller*”). Claims 29-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Rothmuller in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0113803 to Samra *et al.* (“*Samra*”). An Advisory Action of February 21, 2007 maintained the all of the rejections. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 11, 12, 16-21, 29-31 and 33. New dependent Claims 34-60 have been added. As explained below, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are patentable over the cited references, viewed either alone or in combination. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

Amended independent Claim 1 is directed to “an application for accessing media files on a digital device, the application comprising a computer readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program instructions comprising . . . second instructions for generating an information identifier that is associated with at least one item of information . . . wherein the information identifier enhances identification of the at least one item of information; wherein the second instructions for generating an information identifier further includes . . . instructions for graphically altering a representation of the respective item of information in a manner visually distinct from the associated text note, the graphically altering including visually annotating items of information by adding frames around a representation of the item of information.” Amended independent Claims 11 and 21 contain similar recitations related to “visually annotating items of information by adding frames around a representation of the item of information.”

Rothmuller is directed to a system for managing digital media files, such as photographs. The system allows a user to create tags **350** that can be dragged over representations of the photos in the image area **100**. The tags can be associated with metadata so that, when the tag is dragged and dropped onto a photo, the information associated with that tag is stored as metadata for that photo. The user can also search for photos of particular interest by searching the metadata associated with the photos. After a search is conducted, photos may be displayed based

on how well they relate to the search query. For example, photos that are considered to be in the “best match” group may be displayed in image area **100** over a particular background color that indicates the best matches. *Rothmuller* also describes that, in addition to photos, other types of media files may be used and tagged in the system. FIG. 6 and paragraphs 39 and 40 of *Rothmuller* state that, when other types of media files are used, icons indicative of the media type (e.g., video, audio, slideshow, etc.) can be displayed on the representation of the media file to indicate the media type of the media file.

Samra is directed to software that provides for collaborative digital non-linear editing of a video. More particularly, the *Samra* software involves adding editing notes to a video by overlaying the visual representation of the video with one or more layers, the layers containing the editing notes. *Samra* is further directed to various systems that allow for collaborative editing of the video by users located remotely from each other.

Applicant respectfully submits that *Rothmuller* and *Samra* do not teach, either alone or in combination, visually annotating items of information by adding frames around a representation of the item of information, as recited in independent Claims 1, 11, and 21. For at least this reason, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 11, and 21, and also the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over *Rothmuller* and *Samra*, taken either alone or in combination.

In view of the claim amendments and remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims of the present application are in condition for immediate allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants’ undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present application.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

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Respectfully submitted,

/Richard D. Emery/

Richard D. Emery
Registration No. 58,894

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111
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